State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Since December 1867, the Order of Patrons and Husbandry, better known as the Grange, has advocated on behalf of agricultural communities and families; and

WHEREAS, as the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, the Grange now has 300,000 members in 3,600 communities in 37 states; and

WHEREAS, the Grange provides service to agriculture and rural areas on a wide variety of issues including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable Rural America; and

WHEREAS, formed in the years following the Civil War to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population, the Grange now includes non-farm rural individuals and families in strengthening our communities and providing a social gathering place for activities and recreation, a place to develop skills for a lifetime, and a family oriented organization that provides lifetime membership;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April, 2016 as



GRANGE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 21st day of April, A.D. 2016

Peter Shumlin Governor